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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

YUKA KURITA et al.

Application No. 10/551,532

Filed: December 23, 2005

For: BODY FLUID ABSORBENT ARTICLE

Art Unit: 3761

Examiner: Bogart, Michael G

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant for the above-identified application, which a 35 USC 371 National Stage application based on the International Application No. PCT/JP2004/004443, hereby submits legible copies of the following relevant arts along with the form PTO/SB/08A which contains the information required by 37 CFR 1.98(b):

- A. Japanese Patent Application National Publication (Kohyo) No. 2000-510031 A published by Japan Patent Office on August 8, 2000;
- B. Japanese Patent Application National Publication (Kohyo) No. 2005-510033 A published by Japan Patent Office on August 8, 2000;
- C. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (Kokai) No. 2003-52748 A published by Japan Patent Office on February 25, 2003;
- D. Japanese Patent Application National Publication (Kohyo) No. H8-511706 A published by Japan Patent Office on December 10, 1996;
- E. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (Kokai) No. H7-189197 A published by

Japan Patent Office on July 25, 1995;

F. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (Kokai) No. 2001-137286 A published by Japan Patent Office on May 22, 2001;

G. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (Kokai) No. 2002-224162 A published by Japan Patent Office on August 13, 2002;

H. PCT International Publication No. WO 02/062279 published by WIPO on August 15, 2002;

I. PCT International Publication No. WO 95/00093 published by WIPO on January 5, 1995;

J. United Kingdom Patent Application Publication No. GB 2838957 A issued by UK Intellectual Property Office on July 16, 2003;

K. PCT International Publication No. WO 00/00145 published by WIPO on January 6, 2000;

L. European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0815821 A published by European Patent Office on January 7, 1998; and

M. European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0846454 A published by European Patent Office on June 10, 1998.

The above-listed relevant arts A and B are not in the English language; however, a concise explanation of the relevance of each one of these non-English arts is incorporated in the specification pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i). Nonetheless, the arts A and B are accompanied by English language abstracts (which appear on the front pages of the PCT International Publication Nos. WO 98/43571 and WO 98/43579 which respectively correspond to the arts A and B and are both in English). Accordingly, pursuant to MPEP Section 609, the requirement for a concise explanation of the relevance under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for each of these non-English language relevant arts is satisfied, and an English concise explanation thereof is omitted herein.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the accompanied PCT International Publication Nos. WO 98/43571 and WO 98/43579, respectively, are submitted hereby as English translations of the arts A and B required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(ii).

The above-listed relevant arts C through G, all not in the English language, are cited in the International Search Report issued by Japan Patent Office to the above-identified International Application.

Though these relevant arts C through G cited in the Search Report (copy enclosed) are not in the English language, the Search Report is written in English and the degree of the relevance is indicated therein by way of the markings of Y's and A along with the explanation of such markings. Accordingly, pursuant to MPEP Section 609, the requirement for a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) for each one of these non-English language relevant arts is satisfied, and an English concise explanation thereof is omitted herein.

In addition, for the art C, a computer-aided English translation issued by EPO is attached to this art C pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(ii) along with an English Abstract appearing on the front sheet of the corresponding International Publication No. WO 02/062279; for the art D, a copy of the International Publication No. WO 95/00093, which is in English and includes an English summary, is attached thereto as an English translation under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(ii); and for each one of the arts E through G, a computer-aided English translation published by Japan Patent Office is attached pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(ii) along with an English abstract published by Japan Patent Office.

The above-listed relevant arts H through M, all in English, are cited in the Supplementary European Search Report issued by the European Patent Office to the European Patent Application No. EP 04 72 4170 which is a counterpart application to the above-identified International Application.

Of these relevant arts H through M cited in the Supplementary European Search Report (copy enclosed), the art H corresponds to the above-listed art C, and the art I corresponds to the above-listed art D; accordingly, the arts H and C and the arts I and D are cumulative and thus copies of these arts H and I are not submitted herewith pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(c).

Accordingly, it is hereby respectfully requested that the Patent Office make a record of these relevant arts and consider them during the examination.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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